

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NATO CAPITALS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

S E C R E T STATE 054439

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MISSING TEXT LAST LINE PARA 2)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS; PFOR

SUBJECT: ATLANTIC RELATIONS: GENERAL GUIDANCE

REF: STATE 53312

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL; VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL

1. PRESS STORIES MARCH 18 SUGGEST THAT WHILE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO EUROPE IN APRIL IS OFF, THERE WAS SOME POSSIBILITY THAT THE TRIP MIGHT BE RESCHEDULED FOR MAY IF AGREEMENT ON DECLARATIONS CAN BE REACHED. THE FOLLOWING, ALONG WITH REFTEL, SHOULD SERVE AS GENERAL GUIDANCE IN THE EVENT YOUR THOUGHTS ARE SOLICITED BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. YOU SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT VOLUNTEER YOUR VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT.

2. THE FACTS ARE THAT NOT ONLY IS APRIL PRESIDENTIAL TRIP

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OFF, BUT THERE ARE NO PLANS AT THIS TIME FOR PRESIDENTIAL

VISIT TO EUROPE. WE HAVE GIVEN TO THE FRG FOR COMMUNICATION TO THE NINE OUR VIEWS ON THE THREE OPTIONS WHICH ARE NOW OPEN FOR DEALING WITH THE TWO DECLARATIONS. WE NOW AWAIT SUCH PROPOSALS AS THE NINE MAY WISH TO MAKE ON HOW BEST TO DEAL WITH THE FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM WHICH FACES US IN OUR RELATIONS WITH THE NINE. IF WE ARE ABLE TO COME TO SOME AGREEMENT WITH THE NINE ON THE FUNDAMENTAL QUESTION OF US-EC RELATIONSHIPS, THEREBY OPENING THE WAY FOR COMPLETION OF US-EC DECLARATION WHICH IS TRULY BALANCED AND CONTAINS A GUARANTEE OF ORGANIC CONSULTATION, AT THAT TIME, AND ONLY AT THAT TIME, WILL CONSIDERATION AGAIN BE GIVEN TO A PRESIDENTIAL TRIP.

3. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE NINE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS A SERIOUS SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE WHICH GOES TO THE HEART OF OUR PRESENT AND FUTURE RELATIONS. IT IS NOT AN ISSUE WHICH CAN BE RESOLVED IN SOME EASY SEMANTIC EXERCISE. ITS RESOLUTION WILL REQUIRE CAREFUL STUDY, PATIENT EFFORT, AND AN OPEN MIND. THUS, WE DO NOT EXPECT, NOR INDEED ARE WE PRESSING FOR, AN EARLY REPLY BY THE NINE. WE WOULD PREFER THAT THE NINE TAKE AS MUCH TIME AS NECESSARY TO CONSIDER THE FULL IMPORT OF THIS ISSUE AND TO PROPOSE PRACTICAL STEPS TO DEAL WITH THE OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS WE HAVE ALREADY IDENTIFIED.

4. IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS, AND ONLY ON AN IF ASKED BASIS, YOU SHOULD BEAR CLEARLY IN MIND THE FORMULATION OF THE THREE OPTIONS CONTAINED IN REFTEL, SINCE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THESE GOVERNMENTS UNDERSTAND THE BALANCE WHICH MUST BE ACHIEVED EITHER THROUGH THE COMPLETION OF BOTH DECLARATIONS OR THROUGH THE COMPLETION OF THE ATLANTIC DECLARATION ALONE. MATERIAL IN THIS MESSAGE AS WELL AS THAT IN REFTEL SHOULD BE USED IF ISSUE IS RAISED BY THE GOVERNMENTS TO WHICH YOU ARE ACREDITED TO STRESS THE MAJOR DIFFICULTIES WHICH WILL ARISE IN TRANS-ATLANTIC RELATIONSHIPS IF EUROPE OF THE NINE PROCEEDS ALONG ITS PRESENT COURSE. KISSINGER

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